

## Awarded ...



A. Imberty



I. Alves



D. Laurencin



G. Masson



M. Sliwa

## CNRS Silver and Bronze Medals 2013

The Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS; National Centre for Scientific Research) has awarded medals to several outstanding researchers. We congratulate all the awardees and feature those who are among our authors and referees here.

**Anne Imberty** (Centre de Recherches sur les Macromolécules Végétales (CERMAV; affiliated to the CNRS), Grenoble) received the CNRS silver medal, which is awarded for the originality, quality, and importance of research that is both nationally and internationally recognized. Imberty studied at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris, and carried out her PhD (awarded in 1988) with Serge Pérez at the CNRS in Grenoble. After postdoctoral work with Jeremy Carver at the University of Toronto, she joined the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Nantes, and moved to Grenoble in 1991. She is currently CNRS directrice de recherche and Head of the Molecular Glycobiology Group at the CERMAV. Imberty's research interests are in the field of structural glycosciences, in particular biologically active oligosaccharides and their interaction with lectins and glycosyltransferases. She has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on the design and synthesis of glycoclus-<sup>[1]</sup>

Bronze medals are awarded to promising early-career researchers in order to encourage further successful work. As well as the awardees featured here, **Mathieu Allix** (Université d'Orléans) and **Jean-Baptiste Salmon** (Université de Bordeaux) also received bronze medals from the CNRS Institut de Chimie.

**Isabel Alves** (Université de Bordeaux) studied at the Universidade do Algarve and the Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica, Oeiras, and was awarded her PhD in 2004 for work supervised by Victor J. Hruby and Gordon Tollin at the University of Arizona. In 2005, she joined the Laboratoire des BioMolécules (directed by Solange Lavielle) at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, as a postdoctoral fellow with Sandrine Sagan and subsequently a CNRS chargée de recherche. She moved to the Laboratoire de Chimie et Biologie des Membranes et des Nanoobjets at the Université de Bordeaux in 2010. Alves' research interests are centered on lipid membranes, and include the mode of action of embedded receptors and molecules such as membrane-active peptides and cell-penetrating peptides. She has reported in *Angewandte Chemie* on the use of azobenzene-modified polymers in photocontrolled membrane passage.<sup>[2]</sup>

**Danielle Laurencin** (Institut Charles Gerhardt, Montpellier) studied at the École Normale Supérieure, Paris, and worked with Anna Proust at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, for her PhD

(awarded in 2006). She was a postdoctoral researcher in the group of Mark Smith at the University of Warwick from 2007–2008, and joined the Institut Charles Gerhardt as a CNRS chargée de recherche in 2009. Laurencin is interested in the synthesis and characterization of hybrid materials involving boronic acid or boronate building blocks, and the study of the structures of substituted apatites. Her report on the local environments of boronate ligands in materials was featured on the cover of *Chemistry—A European Journal*.<sup>[3]</sup>

**Géraldine Masson** (Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles (ICSN), Gif-sur-Yvette) studied at the Université d'Orléans, and received her PhD (supervised by Sandrine Py and Yannick Vallée) from the Université Joseph Fourier, Grenoble, in 2003. She was a postdoctoral research fellow with Henk Hiemstra and Jan van Maarseven at the University of Amsterdam from 2003–2005, and joined the ICSN as a CNRS chargée de recherche in 2005. Themes of Masson's research include photoredox catalysis, enantioselective catalysis, and the synthesis of biologically active compounds. She has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on organocatalytic enantioselective Ugi-type reactions.<sup>[4]</sup>

**Michel Sliwa** (Université de Lille) studied at the École Normale Supérieure de Cachan, where he received his PhD in 2005 for work supervised by Keitaro Nakatani. After postdoctoral work with Johan Hofkens at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven from 2005–2007, he joined the Laboratoire de Spectrochimie Infrarouge et Raman at the Université de Lille in 2007 as a CNRS chargé de recherche. Sliwa's research involves the use of ultrafast and single-molecule spectroscopy to investigate the ultrafast photodynamics of photoactive (bio)systems and materials. He has reported in *Chemistry—A European Journal* on visible-light-driven hydrogen production.<sup>[5]</sup>

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